

1 Kings 15

King James Version (KJV)

15 Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam the son of Nebat reigned Abijam over Judah. (Rehoboam died 4 years before Jeroboam did) (Abijam – Rehoboam's son – also mistranslated to Abijah in Chronicles)

² Three years reigned he in Jerusalem. and his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom. (Abishalom = Absalom, son of David- she was Absalom's granddaughter)

³ And he walked in all the sins of his father, which he had done before him: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father. (Not father, great grandfather) (He was also into idolatry)

⁴ Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem: (God kept His promise to David, and kept his lineage alive until it was fulfilled by Jesus Christ)

⁵ Because David did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite. (The affair with Bathsheeba, and the murder of Uriah, her husband) 2Samuel-11

⁶ And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life. (Border skirmishes, not all out war)

⁷ Now the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam. (This one was actual war – between Abijam and Jeroboam) 2Chronicles-13 (Israel lost over 500,000 men in that war; Judah was victorious)

⁸ And Abijam slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead. (Asa= physician or a cure)

⁹ And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah. (Jeroboam has 2 years left) (Abijam only reigned for 2 years, 3 months)

¹⁰ And forty and one years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom. (Abishalom = Absalom, son of David) (Maachah – was Asa's grandmother; she raised him because Asa's mother probably died young)

¹¹ And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father. (Finally, a righteous king over Judah)

¹² And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

¹³ And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron. (The idol - Ashura – a large male phallic symbol)

¹⁴ But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days. (The high places were for worship of Yahoveh, but still illegal because God commanded worship only in the temple)

¹⁵ And he brought in the things which his father had dedicated, and the things which himself had dedicated, into the house of the LORD, silver, and gold, and vessels. (He returned worship of God to the temple and replenished the vessels that Shishak had taken in battle against Rehoboam)

¹⁶ And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days. (Baasha is not a descendant of Jeroboam; Jeroboam's lineage as kings was dead after his son died)

¹⁷ And Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not suffer any to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

¹⁸ Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and delivered them into the hand of his servants: and king Asa sent them to Benhadad, the son of Tabrimon, the son of Hezion, king of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, saying, (Trying to hire mercenaries is always a mistake)

2Chronicles-16 (He should have kept his trust in God, who had previously saved Judah in an attack from the Kushites from Ethiopia)

¹⁹ There is a league between me and thee, and between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent unto thee a present of silver and gold; come and break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me. (This was a big mistake- to trust the Syrians, instead of God. The Syrians had no loyalty to anyone. They had already accepted gold from Israel to help against Judah. They were nothing but mercenaries)

²⁰ So Benhadad hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of the hosts which he had against the cities of Israel, and smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelbethmaachah, and all Cinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali. (Cities in the north of Israel, close to Syria) (Baasha was in the south of Israel fighting against Judah. He thought that he had a alliance with Syria)

²¹ And it came to pass, when Baasha heard thereof, that he left off building of Ramah, and dwelt in Tirzah. (Tirzah was the capital of Israel at that time)

²² Then king Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah; none was exempted: and they took away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha had builded; and king Asa built with them Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah. (Built = fortified) (Mizpah was also a city in Benjamin- Joshua-18:26)

²³ The rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? Nevertheless in the time of his old age he was diseased in his feet. 2Chronicles-16 (He was sick for 2 years. This was judgment from God because he had trusted in Syria, instead of trusting in God. He reigned 41 years)

²⁴ And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead. (Asa and Jehoshaphat were righteous kings- at first, but eventually failed. This is a pattern of all the righteous kings. Ego got the best of them)

*Back a few decades – in Israel

²⁵ And Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned over Israel two years.

²⁶ And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin. (The idolatry of Jeroboam)

²⁷ And Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha smote him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel laid siege to Gibbethon. (Gibbethon was part of Dan's land allotment, but had been taken by the Philistines)

²⁸ Even in the third year of Asa king of Judah did Baasha slay him, and reigned in his stead. (He slayed Nadab, the son of Jeroboam) (Kingship by murder)

²⁹ And it came to pass, when he reigned, that he smote all the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, until he had destroyed him, according unto the saying of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite: Chapter-14:10-14 (The end of Jeroboam's progeny)

³⁰ Because of the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and which he made Israel sin, by his provocation wherewith he provoked the LORD God of Israel to anger. (He forced Israel into worshipping his two golden calves. He destroyed the worship of Yahoveh in Israel)

³¹ Now the rest of the acts of Nadab, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

³² And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days. (Border skirmishes – brother against brother, tribe against tribe)

³³ In the third year of Asa king of Judah began Baasha the son of Ahijah to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, twenty and four years.

³⁴ And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin. (So goes the leader, so goes the nation)